



Counsel for the Defense.

NOV-6'25

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CAST

Copyright

Doc West - - - - -	Jay Hunt
Katharine West - - - - -	Betty Compson
Arnold Bruce - - - - -	House Peters
Harrison Blake - - - - -	Rockliffe Fellowes
Harvey Sherman - - - - -	Emmett King
Stephen Marcy - - - - -	Bernard Randall
Hosea Hollingsworth - - - - -	George MacDonald
Thomas Burke - - - - -	William Conklin
Printers devil - - - - -	Joan Standing

From Leroy Scott's famous novel

Director, - - - - - Burton King

Personally supervised by - - - Edward S. Sifton

SYNOPSIS

All Westville turned out to honor Doc West on the day the new water system for which he had fought so hard was installed. Westville had always been proud of the kindly, public spirited old doctor under whose medical attention almost all of the townspeople had grown up.

The new water system was to take place of the inefficient, unsanitary method previously used, and promised to be highly remunerative. With the latter aspect foremost in their thoughts, Harrison Blake and his confederates had gathered in the big Blake mansion to discuss ways and means of acquitting the system for private ownership. The first step, they decided, would be to show up municipal ownership as entirely ineffectual. Doc West stood in the way of such a proceeding, and a frame up to get the old doctor out of the way presented itself as the initial move.

So when young Katharine West came home that afternoon, glowing with the success she had enjoyed at law school and with pride in her father, she found him in the clutches of the law, the victim of Harrison Blake's frame-up. Circumstantial evidence had been presented of so strong and convincing a nature as to West's accepting a bribe that no lawyer would go to his defense, and Katharine's first case was in his behalf.

The odds were too great, and Katharine lost, and saw her innocent old father sent to jail. It was a bitter blow, and only intensified her desire to find and expose the men who had been the cause of his incarceration.

The city water system, meantime, was not operating as it should. Even Arnold Bruce, the keen young editor of the daily newspaper had been commenting upon it, and suggesting that private ownership could not possibly be any worse than municipal.

This was the first intimation Katharine had as to the cause behind the mysterious thwarting of her father's dearest dream. Startled at the sudden illumination she hurried to Blake with her suspicions, only to see him blanch at her announcement. Aflame with her discovery that he himself was in some way connected with the plot, she next carried the battle to Arnold Bruce, convinced that he was an ally of the private interests because of the editorials he had been writing. But he was as amazed as she had been, and enlisted with her to expose the crookedness.

Then came a long series of fruitless investigations, in which no clue could be found, except the fact that someone was impairing the efficiency of the water system.

One rainy night, Katharine watched Blake leave his darkened house in his car and drive away in the same direction he had taken several nights at the same hour. She hurried out to her own car and followed him through the storm, ending at a deserted lodge on the river road, where she found him in secret conference with a representative of the big eastern interests desirous of acquiring the water system. Pressing close to the window, Katharine could hear their conversation, and found them plotting to put Bruce out of the way, much as they had treated her father, for the editor had been directing pointed editorials against the management of the system.

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By these discoveries she knew she was on the right track, but still had no tangible proof. Bruce helped her to manage a little counter plotting, which as yet brought no results.

Suddenly a bigger thing than all their little bickerings came to overshadow the little town. The black plague swept over the people, gathering them from every neighborhood and caste, and even entering the sequestered home of Harrison Blake. When his feeble old mother fell under the shadow of death, Blake's strength of purpose fast ebbed. Katharine came to confront him with his crime - it was his fault that the water system failed, and that the consequent insanitation had brought on the plague, but he refused a confession.

A working man in the water plant whose wife died from the plague cried out that it was Blake who had bribed him to impair the efficiency of the system. There were many who already hated and suspected the man who ruled in the big Blake mansion, and a mob quickly gathered to lynch the ruthless individual whose greed had lost them their nearest and dearest.

Hurrying ahead, Arnold Bruce warded off the mob, and held them in front of Blake's house. Out of the door came Blake, between two officers of the law. The private detective employed by Katharine had posed as another interest, desirous of buying the plant, and had obtained everything necessary to convict Blake and clear old Doc West.

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Under the doctor's wise care, the town soon regained its former health and good will. The system ran smoothly, and no Blake ruled from the mansion on the hill.

The young editor of the daily newspaper and the

doctor's pretty daughter were to be married in the near future.

And thus yielded the undaunted and doughty woman
of law to the call of love.

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